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# Message Text

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64
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 AGR-10 AID-05

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H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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DEPT FOR RUTH DEHAAN, OES/OFA/MST

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: TGEN, GW
SUBJECT: GERMAN NATIONAL MARINE SCIENCE POLICY --
FRG PROGRAM FOR MARINE RESEARCH AND TECHNO-
LOGY FROM 1976 TO 1979

REF: STATE 186529

1. SUMMARY. ON AUGUST 4 THE FRG CABINET APPROVED A PROGRAM FOR MARINE RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1976 TO 1979 WHICH WAS PRESENTED BY MINISTER MATTHOEFER OF THE MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY ( BMFT ). END SUMMARY.

2. IN APRESS CONFERENCE MATTHOEFER DESCRIBED THE GOALS OF THIS DM 1 BILLION PROGRAM. THE PROGRAM WILL IMPROVE R & D TO CLEAN-UP THE OCEANS, TO LOCATE MARINE FOOD SOURCES AND TO PROSPECT FOR MARINE HYDROCARBON AND
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MINERAL RESOURCES. FURTHERMORE, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

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WILL SPONSOR RESEARCH ON NATURAL EVENTS IN THE ON- AND OFF-SHORE REGION AND ON THEPREDICTION OF PHYSICAL PHENOMENA IN THE MARITIME ATMOSPHERE AND IN THE OCEANS. SPECIAL ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFF-SHORE TECHNOLOGY TO EXPLOIT OIL, GAS AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

3. THE PROGRAM WILL BE FINANCED AS FOLLOWS: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE DM 706 MILLION: DM 466 MILLION FROM BMFT AND DM 260 MILLION FROM FIVE OTHER FEDERAL MINISTRIES. THREE COSTAL STATES WILL CONTRIBUTE DM 25 MILLION. THE GERMAN RESEARCH SOCIETY WILL ADD DM 115 MILLION ( PRIMARILY FEDERAL FUNDS ). THE GERMAN MARINE INDUSTRY WILL PROVIDE DM 180 MILLION.

4. MATTHOEFER EXPLAINED THAT THE FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS WOULD BE RESTRICTED TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES WHICH WOULD IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVE POSITION OF THE FRG IN EXPORT OF MARINE TECHNOLOGIES. TURNING TO THE NEW CONDITIONS WHICH WILL BE IMPOSED UPON THE FRG BY THE EXPECTED OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA, HE STATED THAT THE FRG GOVERNMENT WAS CONFIDENT THAT IT WOULD BE ABLE TO " MITIGATE THE SEVERE RESTRICTIONS ON GERMAN RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND TO OVERCOME THE EXPECTED BURDEN ON GERMAN MARINE TECHNOLOGY " BY ASSURING THE FREE ACCESS TO THE SEA THROUGH BILATERAL AGREEMENTS ON COOPERATION. MATTHOEFER EXPLAINED THAT THE UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY, SHOULD BE MOST INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING GERMAN TECHNOLOGY UNDER SUCH AGREEMENTS.

5. THIS NEW MARINE SCIENCE PROGRAM PROVIDES A BASIS FOR ANSWERING MOST OF THE QUESTIONS IN REFTEL. EMBASSY WILL COMPLETE THE ANALYSES ASAP.
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